# First Glances at New Books

#### **Economics**

JAPAN-Harold G. Moulton, with the collaboration of Junichi Ko-Brookings Institution, 645 p., \$4. With Japan and her problems in the limelight, this "economic and financial appraisal" of Japan by the president of the Brookings Institution has appeared just in time to be especially useful and informative. There have been many books purporting to set the reader straight on Japan's finances, government relations, resources, and industrial development. But the statistical data were apt to be incomplete and far from current. Now, Dr. Moulton tells us, Japanese statistical methods and data compare favorably with those of other countries. The facts and figures, interpreted by Dr. Moulton, tell a dramatic story of a country's rapid evolution from a hermit kingdom to a world power.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

#### Ornithology

THE RIDDLE OF MIGRATION—William Rowan—Williams and Wilkins, 151 p., \$2. From his vantage-point at the University of Alberta, Prof. Rowan can watch the turn of bird migration to better advantage than can most of his colleagues farther south. He has taken advantage of his location in a number of interesting experiments, of which he tells in this book, along with other things relating to the still unsolved riddle of migration.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## Geography

MERCATOR MAP OF THE WORLD—Ernest Dudley Chase—Houghton Mifflin, 40 x 30½ in., \$2. A gaily colored picture map with much "atmosphere" of mountain ranges, trees, animals, huts, and human figures. Hundreds of little white scrolls bear place names. Almost seventy cities in the United States are labeled in this fashion. Some inaccuracies occur. Looking closely at China, as the public is doing today, we find that the Great Wall has been set north of Manchuria instead of south. But perhaps when a map is as decorative as this one, it is scarcely fair to expect geographic perfection.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## General Science

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SMITH-SONIAN INSTITUTION, 1930—Government Printing Office, 650 p., \$2. In addition to the routine report of tasks undertaken and results achieved, the Smithsonian Report, following its usual custom, prints accounts gathered from all the world of new and noteworthy things that merit permanent recording. There are stories of such diverse matters as the history of the autogiro, how men live in the Siberian Far North, where and how the first rains fell on the earth, and the building of the Holland Tunnel. This soberly-bound, unadvertised book is about the best two dollars' worth of wonder tales one can find anywhere.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

#### Archaeology

RECENTLY DATED PUEBLO RUINS IN ARIZONA—Emil W. Haury and Lyndon L. Hargrave—Smithsonian Inst., 120 p., 27 pl., 80c. When the tree-ring chronology for dating Southwestern ruins was nearing completion, in 1929, four pueblos received special attention. It was hoped that in these ruins charred timbers might be found to fill in the missing years of the tree-ring calendar; and the hope was fulfilled. In this report, the archaeological observations at the four pueblos are described. It is perhaps the first report in which the new calendar knowledge has been applied so fully in the reconstruction of pueblo history; for a good many wood specimens were gathered, and their relation to the ruins carefully considered.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## Psychology

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SEX: AN INTRODUCTION—Erwin Wexberg, Tr. by W. Beran Wolfe—Farrar and Rinehart, 215 P., \$2.50. An exposition of Adlerian psychology as applied to the specific problem of sex. Parents will be interested in the chapter on sex education, in which the author keeps in mind the practical demands of society with regard to modesty, etc., as well as the ideal training of the individual to be unselfconscious.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## Economics

COMMERCE YEARBOOK, 1931, Vol. I—United States—U. S. Department of Commerce—Government Printing Office, 696 p., \$1. Fundamental facts and figures about the industry and commerce of the United States are conveniently summarized in this annual publication of Uncle Sam's bureau for the collection and distribution of fundamental data on business.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

#### Exploration

COLD—Laurence McKinley Gould— Brewer, Warren and Putnam, 274 p., \$3.50. The second-in-command of the Byrd Antarctic expedition tells his story. It is an epic without heroics, but with plenty of heroism to be read between the quietly written lines.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

# Vital Statistics

THE BALANCE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS—Robert R. Kuczynski—Brookings Institution, 170 p., \$2. In this, the second volume of the series, the author takes up eastern and southern Europe. The books presents the facts clearly, but without any attempt at analysis of social causes or possible economic and political consequences of the trend of population growth and decline seen in the various countries studied. The thoughtful reader with interest and possible training in political and economic science will be able to interpret the material for himself, but the average lay reader will probably find this merely a volume of facts, figures and tables, although a valuable volume.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## Horticulture

THE GARDEN CLUB HANDBOOK—Fae Huttenlocher—Meredith Publishing Company, 119 p., 50c. This civilizing little book gives in compact form all the essentials for garden club activity: how to organize and finance, how to draft constitution and by-laws, how to arrange and judge a flower show, and a number of other things.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## Aviation

THE PROBLEM OF VERTICAL FLIGHT—Parlee C. Grose—General Publishing Co., McComb, Ohio, 128 p., \$1.50. An optimistic survey of possible methods of solving the problem of rising straight in the air by means of some sort of helicopter, presented with historical background.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931

## General Science

PROJECTS IN SCIENCE AND NATURE STUDY SHOWN AT THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE CHILDREN'S FAIR, 1930—American Institute, New York City, 64 p., free. A limited number of copies of this handbook are still available for distribution.

Science News Letter, December 26, 1931